

AACAP relies on the participation of its members to facilitate positive change for patient care and the development of the professional practice landscape. There are numerous ways in which members interested in advocacy can engage with the AACAP Department of Government Affairs. We thank you for your passion, interest, and support.

Resident Advocacy Scholar Child and adolescent psychiatry fellows or rising child and adolescent psychiatry fellows are invited to join the AACAP Department of Government Affairs in a month-long elective in Washington, DC to fully immerse in advocacy and policy work. There is a stipend of \$1,500 provided to offset living expenses. Application materials are due by **Thursday, October 31, 2024**. Please send these documents and any questions to govaffairs@aacap.org.

The AACAP Congressional Fellowship One child and adolescent psychiatrist with significant interest in child and/or mental health advocacy is invited to apply for an opportunity to work in a congressional office. This is a 10-month fellowship in Washington, D.C. There is both a generous stipend and relocation funding available. Applications for 2025 will open in the Fall. Please send any questions to govaffairs@aacap.org.

Legislative Conference Attendance A key opportunity for AACAP members of all career-levels to meet with Members of Congress and their legislative staff to promote children's mental health and the psychiatric workforce. The 2025 AACAP legislative Conference is **May 5-6, 2025** at the [Hilton Washington DC National Mall The Wharf](#). Registration information will be available closer to the conference date. It is anticipated that AACAP will provide **resident travel grants** to trainees planning to attend this conference, which must be matched by his or her regional organization. More information about this grant opportunity is available on AACAP's Legislative Conference webpage.

Advocacy Liaison (AL) Network Join a network of members engaged in advocacy or who wish to become more engaged from all corners of the country and at all points in their career. Each regional organization is encouraged to appoint an AL to their Executive Committee. The AL Network typically meets on the first Monday of each month, at 8pm Eastern via Zoom, to learn about relevant state and federal initiatives to organize grassroots activities in your regional organization. If you are interested in becoming an [Advocacy Liaison](#), please contact govaffairs@aacap.org.

Regional Organizations The grass roots level support of AACAP initiatives; are responsible for support of local members and residents, advocacy for children's mental health issues; and liaison to AACAP's Assembly. Your participation is vital. Assume a leadership role with your regional organization of child and adolescent psychiatry.

Supporting AACAP-PAC The American Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry's political action committee, advocates for child and adolescent psychiatrists and their patients in Washington, D.C., by educating and supporting congressional candidates who advocate for child and adolescent psychiatry and mental health. The PAC is entirely supported by Association member contributions. Please [contribute](#) to our efforts to advocate for child and adolescent psychiatry by visiting www.aacap-pac.com.

Apply to Join an AACAP Committee or the AACAP-PAC Board Annually, AACAP members can formally express interest to join any of the various AACAP committees. The co-chairs of the Advocacy Committee and the AACAP-PAC Board, both of which are housed in the 501(c)6 arm of AACAP, or the Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, review their rosters and consider new members to join each group.

Advocacy and Collaboration Grants AACAP Annually offers regional organizations of AACAP the opportunity to apply for an annual grant to help support advocacy work and improve collaboration with allied professional organizations. Look for the 2025 application and latest application deadline on AACAP's website.

AMA House of Delegates AACAP participates in the American Medical Association (AMA) House of Delegates, the legislative and policy-making body of the AMA. AACAP delegates are appointed by the president of AACAP to advocate for policies that support our members and their patients. AACAP's delegation needs to hear from you! Email govaffairs@aacap.org to share policy issues that impact your patients and your practice.